





SHORTLY
AFTER I
JOINED THE
INVESTMENT
CLUB.

OH, I
REMEMBER
NOW!



I
THINK HE'S
AROUND
SEVENTY-
FIVE.

HOW
OLD IS
ZEN-SAN?



LEGENDS?

THE
INVESTMENT
CLUB HAS ALL
KINDS OF
TRADITIONAL
LEGENDS
ABOUT HIM.





STOP,
BOTH
OF
YOU!

STOP!



I CAN'T
GO ON!
LEAVE
ME AND
RUN!



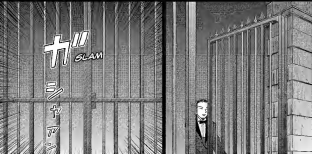
COME
IN!
HURRY!



WE'RE
VERY
CLOSE!
PLEASE
DO YOUR
BEST!



WE'RE
HERE!





SERIOUSLY?

HE ELOPED
WITH AN
ACTRESS?



I HEARD
SHE WAS
DAZZLINGLY
GORGEOUS.



IT SEEMS TO
BE TRUE. THE
STORY'S BEEN
PASSED DOWN
TO EVERY
GENERATION.



NATURALLY
THE MOVIE
STUDIO FIRED
ZEN-SAN AND
TRIED TO
SEPARATE
THEM...

...BUT THE
COUPLE WAS
INSEPARABLE.
THAT WAS
WHY THEY
ELOPED.



ZEN-SAN WAS
WORKING
PART-TIME AT A
MOVIE STUDIO
WHEN HE WAS A
SECOND-YEAR
STUDENT AT
TOKYO
UNIVERSITY.



THAT WAS
WHERE HE
FELL DEEP IN
LOVE WITH A
POPULAR,
PROMISING
YOUNG MOVIE
STAR.



THE
FUJITA
MANSION?

THEY
ESCAPED
TO THE
FUJITA
MANSION.



ZEN-SAN
HAD
NOWHERE
ELSE TO
TURN.

HE HAD
DISCUSSED
THINGS AHEAD
OF TIME WITH
FUJITA
TOSHIKAZU,
THE MASTER
OF THE FUJITA
MANSION AT
THE TIME.



WHILE THE
COUPLE ENJOYED
THE MANSION'S
PROTECTION,
MR. TOSHIKAZU
MEDIATED WITH
THE MOVIE
STUDIO AND
SETTLED THE
ISSUE.

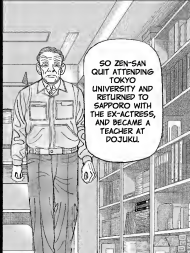


I GUESS
ZEN-SAN IS
INDEBTED TO
MR. TOSHI-
KAZU FOR
THE REST OF
HIS LIFE.

IT'S SAID
A LOT OF
MONEY
GOT PAID
OUT FOR
THAT.



HE
WAS A
TEACHER
AT
FIRST?



SO ZEN-SAN
QUIT ATTENDING
TOKYO
UNIVERSITY AND
RETURNED TO
SAPPORO WITH
THE EX-ACTRESS,
AND BECAME A
TEACHER AT
DOJUKU.



I HEARD HE
TAUGHT
MATH AND
SCIENCE.



I GUESS
THAT
ABOUT
SUMS
IT UP.



EVENTUALLY
HE BECAME
THE PIPELINE
CONNECTING THE
INVESTMENT CLUB
AND THE FUJITA
MANSION. THAT WAS
WHEN HE CHANGED
HIS IMAGE INTO
THAT OF A SCHOOL
JANITOR.



SO THAT'S WHY
ZEN-SAN IS SO
DEVOTEDLY
LOYAL TO THE
FUJITA FAMILY
AND PLAYING
BEHIND THE
SCENES: TO
RETURN THE
FAVOR.



WOW.
WHO KNEW
THERE WAS
SUCH A
BACK-
GROUND
STORY?



NO... THINGS
DIDNT PAN
OUT FOR
THEM. THEY
EVENTUALLY
SEPARATED.



IS HE
STILL
MARRIED
TO THE
ACTRESS
HE ELOPED
WITH?



ALL IN
ALL,
ZEN-SAN.

...HAS HAD
THREE
DIVORCES.



HE LATER
MARRIED
SOMEBODY
ELSE, BUT
THAT ALSO
ENDED IN
DIVORCE.



AND AFTER
THAT, HE
MARRIED
AGAIN.



ARE YOU
SERIOUS?!

THREE
DIVORCES?





AMAZING...

DOJUKU
GISOLO...



I'VE
HEARD
BACHELOR
DOJUKU
TEACHERS
GO TO
HIM FOR
ADVICE.

BUT
THEY'RE
ALL OUT
OF HIS
LEAGUE.



WELL, AFTER
ALL, HE STOLE
THE HEART OF
A RISING STAR
WHEN HE WAS
ATTENDING
TOKYO
UNIVERSITY.

HE MUST
HAVE SOME
KIND OF
SEDUCTION
TECHNIQUE.



ZEN-SAN.

WOW, THAT'S
UNEXPECTED!



I'M GOING TO
EAVESDROP TO
HEAR ALL ABOUT
HIS SEDUCTION
TECHNIQUE.

ALL
RIGHT,
THEN.



IT DOESN'T
NECESSARILY
HAVE TO BE
GOLD. IT
COULD BE
ANYTHING
ELSE.



SO WHY IS
BUYING GOLD
GOING TO
FACILITATE MY
GETTING
MARRIED?



CONFIDENCE,
HMM...?



IN
OTHER
WORDS,
YOU
SHOULD
OWN A
TANGIBLE
ASSET, AT
LEAST ONE
THING.

WHAT'S
ESSENTIAL
IS THAT YOU
DO WHAT
GIVES YOU
CONFIDENCE.
YOU COULD
BUY GOLD, A
CAR, A CON-
DOMINIUM...



TERAHATA-SENSEI,
IF YOU HAVE
CONFIDENCE
IN YOURSELF,
WOMEN WILL
LIKE YOU.
THERE'S NO
MISTAKING
THAT.



IT'S TO
"HAVE SELF-
CONFIDENCE."
THERE'S
NOTHING
ELSE.

THE SECRET
TO FINDING
LOVE IS
JUST ONE
THING.



THERE'S
ONLY ONE
REASON:
BECAUSE
THOSE MEN
HAVE NO
SELF-CONFIDENCE.

CONVERSELY,
THE REASON
WHY WOMEN
FIND MEN
REPELLENT IS
NOT BECAUSE
OF APPEARANCE
OR ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENTS.



NOW THAT
YOU MENTION
IT... I THINK
YOU'RE
RIGHT.



THAT'S THE
ANIMAL NATURE
OF HUMAN LOVE
AFFAIRS.
SELF-CONFIDENCE
IS EVERYTHING;
OUTWARD
APPEARANCE,
MONETARY
WORTH, AND
SOCIAL STATUS
ARE IRRELEVANT.

A MAN WHO IS
ATTRACTIVE TO
A WOMAN HAS
SELF-CONFIDENCE.





BUYING A
CONDOMINIUM
IS A HASSLE
WITH SIGNING
LOANS AND
WHATNOT. IT
TAKES TOO
MUCH TIME.



BUYING A
CAR ENTAILS
DECISION
MAKING.



YOU CAN
BUY IT ON
THE SPOT
AND TAKE
IT HOME
WITH
YOU.



ON THE OTHER
HAND, GOLD IS
A SIMPLE
PRODUCT
READILY
AVAILABLE FOR
PURCHASE.



MASCULINE
APPEAL?



IT WILL
INCREASE
YOUR
MASCU-
LINE
APPEAL.



GOLD WILL
GIVE YOU
THE POSITIVE
KIND OF
STRESS.



EXPLORERS
OF OLD IN
SEARCH OF
CONTINENTS
ALL
JOURNEYED
IN SEARCH
OF GOLD.

IN THE DAYS OF
GREAT NAVIGATION,
THE FIRST THING
THE SPANIARDS
ASKED THE NATIVES
UPON LANDING ON
UNKNOWN SHORES
WAS: "WHERE IS THE
NEAREST PLACE WE
CAN FIND GOLD OR
SILVER?"

MEN,
WOMEN,
YOUTH, THE
ELDERLY...
THEY ALL
DO.

IN OTHER
WORDS,
PEOPLE
THROUGH-
OUT WORLD
HISTORY
HAVE LOVED
GOLD.

I THINK IT
WOULD MAKE
A NEGATIVE
IMPRESSION,
THAT I'M A
VULGAR AND
MATERIALISTIC
PERSON.

I UNDER-
STAND WHAT
YOU MEAN
ABOUT THE
BOTTOM LINE.
BUT I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT
TALKING
UPFRONT
ABOUT
GOLD.



MAGICAL
TALISMAN? I SEE...



IT'LL BE
YOUR
PERSONAL
TOKEN,
YOUR
MAGICAL
TALISMAN.

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO TALK
ABOUT IT TO
ANYBODY.
JUST KEEP
IT TO
YOURSELF.

Sign: Welcoming Spring



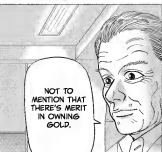
MOST PEOPLE
WANT SOME
THING FOR
PSYCHOLOGICAL
COMFORT.
THAT'S WHY
PEOPLE VISIT
SHRINES AND BUY
AMULETS.

THERE ARE ONLY
A HANDFUL
OF PEOPLE IN
THE WORLD
WHO COULD
CONTROL
THEIR MIND WITH
THEIR OWN
POWER.



INDEED, IT
SHOWS A
PERSON TO
BE OF A
GENTLE
NATURE, A
FAVORABLE
KIND OF
PERSON.

IT IS NO
SHAME TO
RELY ON
THINGS.



NOT TO
MENTION THAT
THERE'S MERIT
IN OWNING
GOLD.



I UNDER-
STAND
WHAT
YOU'RE
SAYING.



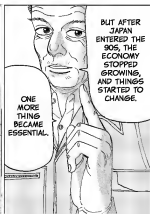
IN THE PAST,
LOVE AFFAIRS
USED TO GO
WELL IF THE
MAN HAD SELF-
CONFIDENCE.



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN?



ONE
MORE
THING?
WHAT
IS IT?



ONE
MORE
THING
BECAME
ESSENTIAL.

BUT AFTER
JAPAN
ENTERED THE
90S, THE
ECONOMY
STOPPED
GROWING,
AND THINGS
STARTED TO
CHANGE.

